

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

The Regular Meeting of September 2, 2014 of Council for the Borough of Kennett Square was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Red Clay Room of the Kennett Fire Company No. 1, 423 Dalmatian Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania with President Leon R. Spencer, Jr. in the Chair.

Present: *President Leon R. Spencer, Jr.*
 Vice President Danilo P. Maffei
 Councilmember Geoffrey R. Bosley
 Councilmember Brett M. Irwin
 Councilmember George P. Plumley, III
 Councilmember D. Lynn Sinclair
 Councilmember Patrick B. Taylor
 Manager Brant Kucera
 Solicitor Marc Jonas

Absent: *Mayor Matthew W. Fetick*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Spencer reminded the public that when speaking they are to state their name, address and limit their comments to five (5) minutes.

Mario Lorenzut, 516 Richards Road, read aloud a letter addressed to Council from the Commander and Home-Corporal, Tom Rupert and Mike De Fazio, of the American Legion. The letter contained the request to remove a street tree at the Legion property, 208 East State Street.

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, suggested that a list of employee positions be part of the budget. The list should not contain the employees' names or personal information but should include their salary, paid time off, co-pay reimbursements, etc. In addition, Mr. Thomas recommended that the budget include a complete list of every piece of equipment at the new public works facility down to each hammer. Plus, he recommended that the annual mileage of the vehicles and tractors also be included in the budget as well.

Shannon Bullock, 801 Wayne Avenue, questioned why there are traffic cones in her neighborhood. A cone used to be on Wayne Avenue near Ridge Avenue but now it is down near West South Street. In addition, there is a cone on South Washington Street as well. She questioned if there will be time for public comments during the discussion items.

President Spencer advised her that the discussion items allow for discussions among the members of Council only.

The Manager advised that Joe Scalise, Director of Public Works, will be able to respond to Ms. Bullocks comments regarding the traffic cones later in the meeting under "Council/Manager/ Mayor Comments and Announcements".

REPORTS

CODES DEPARTMENT

Russell Drumheller, Codes Enforcement Officer, reported the following activity in the Codes Department for the month of August, 2014:

- Completed 251 inspections.
- Received 106 telephone calls into the office.
- Received 62 visitors to the office.
- Processed 36 permits – building/plumbing/electrical/mechanical.
- Completed seven (7) Resale Use and Occupancy Inspections.
- Issued 15 violation letters for indoor furniture located outside.
- Continued inspections on 19 new homes under construction at this time.
- Continued the inspection process and code reviews for the new four (4) story mixed use building which includes 33 apartments.
- Continued plan review for the renovation of a new six (6) unit apartment building being proposed at 205 South Union Street.
- Ester Perez, Permit Technician, continues to issue permits for the use of pavilions in Anson B. Nixon Park.
- Prepared for and attended one (1) zoning hearing for the Pepe residence, 207 North Lincoln Street.

HISTORIC KENNETT SQUARE (HKS)

Mary Hutchins, Executive Director, reported the following:

- HKS is gearing up for the Mushroom Festival this weekend.
- The last Third Thursday held in August was another successful event.
- “Terra Cotta”, 112 East State Street, opened a few weeks ago. This is a new gift boutique. “Marcella Cruz”, featuring handmade Columbian accessories, plans to open at 121 West State Street this weekend. In addition, the “Eco Boutique”, 103 West State Street, has transformed into “State and Union”.
- They are currently working on the next issue of FIG. It is a holiday issue that should be available in early November.
- They continue to work on the update to the Economic Development Plan. The draft plan should be ready later this month.
- Tickets sales for the Brewfest are on track to sell out a few weeks before the event.
- HKS is working with KARMA on the Halloween and Holiday Parades.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (HC)

Councilmember Sinclair, Chair of the Historical Commission, reported that the Commission reviewed and approved the following building application during their August 2014 meeting:

- 200 North Lincoln Street – a small porch. This is not an extensive renovation and the owner is replacing like for like materials.

During the same meeting, the Commission did an informal review of the proposed extensive renovation for the home and carriage house at 221 South Union Street.

CONSENT ITEMS

MINUTES of AUGUST 4, 2014

President Spencer presented the minutes from August 4, 2014.

It was moved by Vice President Maffei and seconded by Councilmember Sinclair to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

BILLS

President Spencer presented the bills to be paid on September 2, 2014, and the bills that were paid since the last meeting.

It was moved by Councilmember Sinclair and seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

President Spencer advised that Robert Whiteside, 802 Wayne Avenue, attended the Public Safety Committee meeting in August to discuss his concern of speeding on Wayne Avenue and the dangerous situation this presents with the number of children playing in the neighborhood. The residents of the neighborhood have requested that stop signs be installed on Wayne Avenue. The Public Safety Committee realized that this item is a legitimate concern and was placed on the agenda because it requires some Council discussion.

Joseph Scalise, Director of Public Works, gave a brief description of how the Borough developed the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Approximately five (5) years ago the Public Safety Committee received several requests for the installation of speed bumps and stops signs in the Borough. The requests were discussed by the Committee after which he contacted the Borough's engineers, Rettew. Together they researched traffic studies used by other municipalities and were able to tweak an existing Neighborhood Traffic Management Program to meet the Borough's needs. The program contains a scientific scoring system to evaluate traffic as well as a procedure of how to address residents' concerns regarding traffic and related issues. Mr. Scalise continued with a brief presentation the Program.

President Spencer stated that State law does not allow stops signs to be installed for traffic calming measures only.

Chief Zunino confirmed this.

A discussion ensued between Council, the Manager and Mr. Scalise along with input from Chief of Police Edward Zunino and Fire Chief Steven Melton.

Vice President Maffei said these types of conversations come up often and questioned what the next step would be.

Councilmember Bosley commented that what works for one street may not work for another.

Mr. Scalise stated that ways to address traffic calming can come down to how it will be funded.

Vice President Maffei said that all possible "fixes" sound expensive and noted that street trees tend to reduce traffic speeds.

Councilmember Bosley questioned the feasibility of installing speed bumps.

Mr. Scalise replied that the only types of speed bumps that meet PennDOT's approval are the ones that are currently on State Street.

President Spencer questioned the estimated cost of installing speed bumps.

Mr. Scalise stated that his best guess is \$3,000 to \$5,000 each. He noted that one thing that needs to be taken into consideration about speed bumps is how they would affect emergency vehicles.

Vice President Maffei stated his concern that certain fire apparatus must almost come to a complete stop in order to cross over a speed bump.

Fire Chief Steven Melton advised that the emergency apparatus can go over the speed bumps at 20 to 25 miles per hour but the ladder truck must travel much slower.

Councilmember Bosley questioned if speed boards are effective.

Chief of Police Zunino responded that they are only effective for a few days and then they are ignored. That is why the Police Department moves them around them around throughout the Borough. He added that permanent solar powered speed boards have the same temporary effectiveness.

President Spencer questioned if Stenning Hills is the most densely populated area in the Borough.

The Manager replied yes.

Councilmember Sinclair stated that we have received enough complaints and need to work on a solution.

The Manager advised that the scoring of the traffic study done on Wayne Avenue does not meet the criteria required to install stop signs.

President Spencer advised that during the Public Safety Committee meeting, Mr. Whiteside urged the Committee not to allow those numbers to deter installing stop signs for the safety of the children.

Vice President Maffei stated that the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program makes it is pretty clear the steps that need to be taken to proceed and recommended that they be followed and we move forward as quickly as possible.

Councilmember Sinclair agreed with Vice President Maffei.

Councilmember Taylor said that the bottom end of Wayne Avenue at South Street is congested with parked cars and that presents more of a hazard to children. Speeding does not appear to be the issue and we need to make drivers aware of the children in the area.

Councilmember Irwin questioned the installation of rumble strips.

Mr. Scalise responded that residents tend to complain of noise they generate.

President Spencer questioned if crosswalks could be installed.

The Manager advised that with the direction of Council he will direct the Public Works Department to install crosswalks on Wayne Avenue at Worrall Avenue and Oak Avenue.

President Spencer recommended that the crosswalks be installed at this time and then move forward by following the steps in the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

Council concurred.

PAYMENT APPLICATION NO. 5 KENNETT SQUARE SIGNAL SYSTEM - CLOSED LOOP PROJECT

President Spencer presented Payment Application No. 5 to Lenni Electric for the Kennett Square Signal System – Closed Loop Project.

The Manager advised that the payment amount of \$172,936.02 is mainly for curb, sidewalk and ADA ramp designs.

It was moved by Vice President Maffei and seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the payment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT NO. 1, PAYMENT APPLICATION NO. 4 and CONTRACT NO. 2, PAYMENT APPLICATION NO. 2 YEATMAN WELL PROJECT

President Spencer presented the request for Contract No. 1, Payment Application No. 4 to Wickersham Construction and Contract No. 2, Payment No. 2 to Greg A. Vietri, Inc.

The Manager advised the payment amount of \$204,012.00 to Wickersham Construction for work completed up to August 25, 2014. It mainly includes the concrete foundations, portions of water and sewer line work, well pump and the brine tank.

The payment amount of \$45,645.75 to Greg A. Vietri, Inc. is for work completed up to August 22, 2014, and is largely for the new primary electric service, 50% of the SCADA engineering submittals and the remainder of the underground conduit to the wellhead.

It was moved by Councilmember Bosley and seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the payments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 and PAYMENT APPLICATION NO. 4/FINAL GRANT WAY – PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

President Spencer presented the Change Order No. 2 and Payment Application No. 4 to Appoint Construction Services for Grant Way – Public Works Facility Improvements Project.

The Manager advised that Change Order No. 2 is for the replacement of unsuitable soils encountered during the paving of the site to give the blacktop a stable base.

Payment No. 4, in the amount of \$39,648.48, will close out the contract and represents costs associated with the retainage withheld from previous payments plus the cost associated with Change Order No. 2.

It was moved by Councilmember Sinclair and seconded by Vice President Maffei to approve the payment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZE AUCTION of PATROL VEHICLE

President Spencer presented the request from Chief of Police Edward Zunino to auction off the 2004 Ford Explorer.

It was moved by Vice President Maffei and seconded by Councilmember Bosley to approve the auction of this vehicle. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Spencer encouraged the public to sign up for the emergency notification service Swift Reach.

He announced that the 29th Annual Mushroom Festival begins this Friday night with a parade and runs through Sunday.

Councilmember Sinclair commented that if you sign up for the Mushroom Festival 5K Run/Walk you receive a free t-shirt and wristband; the wristband gives you free access to the festival.

President Spencer commented that some of these meetings are tougher than others. Members of Council are dedicated individuals who are also residents of the Borough. They are elected officials who do their best to maintain the level of services while keeping taxes down. President Spencer stated that the Borough does not hire slouches; staff members are dedicated individuals that serve the Borough well.

COUNCIL, MANAGER and MAYOR COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

In response to comments made by an out of order resident, the Manager stated that Joe Scalise is a very productive and dedicated employee of this Borough. The Manager added that all of the Department Heads are incredibly talented and he finds it very disheartening when staff is attacked in this manner.

In response to Ms. Bullock's comments, Mr. Scalise advised that the traffic cone at Wayne and Worrall was to keep vehicles from being parked on a stormwater inlet that needed repaired. The inlet was repaired and the cone was removed. The Public Works Department discovered another inlet that needs to be repaired on South Washington Street and placed a cone over that inlet. As far as the cone near West South Street, he stated that he has no knowledge of a repair issue in that area but would look into the manner.

Vice President Maffei stated that he supports the earlier comments made by President Spencer and the Manager. The Borough is committed to hiring competent and personable human beings and Council supports the efforts made by the Manager in doing so. Vice President Maffei referred to the statement made by Mr. Whiteside that "we are playing politics" with the consideration of the placement of a stop sign is ridiculous and noted that Council stands nothing to gain politically in the consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Vice President Maffei and seconded by Councilmember Plumley to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Karen L. Scherer

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Secretary